

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15  
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R 181100Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BERN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3670  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION OECD PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION NATO  
AMCONSUL ZURICH  
USMISSION UN NEW YORK

UNCLAS BERN 5750

EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR SZ  
SUBJ: RECENT STATEMENTS OF HIGH-RANKING SWISS OFFICIAL ON SWISS  
ROLE IN WORLD MAY PRESAGE MORE ACTIVE SWISS FOREIGN POLICY

1. SUMMARY: RECENT REMARKS BY FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPT  
SECRETARY GENERAL ALBERT WEITNAUER IN PARIS AND ELSEWHERE  
INDICATE THAT SWITZERLAND SEEKS TO ESTABLISH SYSTEM OF  
ROUTINE CONSULTATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND  
WITH US. WEITNAUER HAS BEEN SAYING SWITZERLAND  
MUST INFORM ITS PARTNERS THAT SWISS WILL PURSUE A MORE  
ACTIVE FOREIGN POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. JOURNAL DE GENEVA DEC 16 CARRIED REPORT OF WEITNAUER'S  
REMARKS TO SWISS PRESS IN PARIS FOLLOWING MEETING WITH  
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QUAI D'ORSAY DIRECTOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS FRANCOIS LEFEBVRE  
DE LABOULAYE. WEITNAUER SAID THAT HE FOUND CLOSE  
SIMILARITY OF VIEWS IN TOUR D'HORIZON WHICH TOUCHED  
ON EUROPEAN PROBLEMS, CSCE FOLLOW-UP, DETENTE, NORTH-  
SOUTH DIALOGUE, ATLANTIC RELATIONS, NEW US ADMINISTRATION,  
MEDITERRANEAN BASIN, NEAR EAST, SOUTH AFRICA AND BI-

LATERAL ISSUES.

3. WEITNAUER STATED THAT QUOTE VISIT TO FRANCE CAME IN CONTEXT OF SWISS EFFORTS ESTABLISH SYSTEM OF ROUTINE CONSULTATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND US, IF POSSIBLE UNQTE. HE STRESSED THAT SWITZERLAND MUST MAKE ITS PARTNERS AWARE THAT SWISS FOREIGN POLICY IS BECOMING MORE ACTIVE AND SWISS INTEND TO REMAIN IN MAINSTREAM OF CURRENT EVENTS. WEITNAUERS ADDED THAT QUOTE ANY FORM OF INSULARITY IS HENCEFORTH INCONCEIVABLE UNQTE, THOUGH SWITZERLAND IS NOT MEMBER OF ANY LARGE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ORGANIZATION WITH EXCEPTION OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE. IN DESCRIBING SWISS POST WW III POLICY AS QUOTE NEUTRALITY AND SOLIDARITY UNQTE, HE EMPHASIZED SOLIDARITY AND PARTICIPATION AS KEY ELEMENTS.

4. WEITNAUER STRESSED THAT A WORLD MONETARY SYSTEM WITHOUT SWISS PARTICIPATION WAS INCONCEIVABLE. RE ATLANTIC RELATIONS, WEITNAUER SAID THAT THOUGH EUROPE DOES NOT YET SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE, ITS INTERESTS ARE NOT ONLY REGIONAL.

5. WEITNAUER ALSO STRESSED NECESSITY FOR SWISS INVOLVEMENT IN MAINSTREAM OF WORLD AFFAIRS DURING BRIEFING FOR VISITING GROUP FROM CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND IN RECENT SPEECH TO SWISS FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSOCIATION. AFTER USUAL REFERENCE TO SWISS MEMBERSHIP IN UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, EFFORTS WITH INTERNATIONAL WELFARE AND RELIEF AGENCIES, AS WELL AS UNCLASSIFIED

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INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND CIEC, WEITNAUER THEN CONTINUED WITH STATEMENT ON NEED FOR DOMESTIC EDUCATIONAL EFFORT TO RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SWITZERLANDS STAKE IN WORLD COMMUNITY AND DESIRE-ABILITY FOR SWISS TO PARTICIPATE AS UN MEMBER. HE WAS CAREFUL TO MAKE CLEAR THERE ARE LIMITS TO ACTION WITHIN TRADITIONAL SWISS NEUTRALITY. WEITNAUER TOLD CANADIANS THAT SWISS COULD NOT JOIN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, AND QUOTE THOUGH SWISS FELT QUITE AT HOME IN WESTERN FAMILY OF NATIONS, ROUGHLY CORRESPONDING TO OECD, DEFENSE IS OBVIOUSLY A QUESTION APART UNQTE. HE ADDED THAT QUOTE NOT BEING NATO MEMBER, SWITZERLAND MAINTAINS MILITIA TYPE STRUCTURE OF MILITARY PREPAREDNESS WHICH IS STILL ONE OF LARGEST ARMIES IN EUROPE UNQTE. DAVIS

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEUTRALISM, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, SZ, (WEITNAUER, ALBERT)  
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